In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (previously presented) In an image rendering environment, a method for dynamically adding one or more document indicia to a document when rendering the document without using a printer driver, the method comprising:

providing a rendering job of a document as a single file in a native format that supports at least one of (i) multiple pages, and (ii) multiple images;

storing one or more document indicia as separate sub-images in the single file in the native format;

providing links within the file linking one or more pages of the document with one or more of the sub-images and linking a first sub-image with a second sub-image;

defining an ordered subset of the sub-images to apply to the document; and

rendering the rendering job at a rendering device without using a printer driver, wherein the rendering device:

receives the single file in the native format; and

renders the single file, wherein the one or more sub-images are rendered as parts of the one or more pages of the document based on an association process, wherein the association process is one of (i) an overlay process, (ii) an underlay process, and (iii) a composite process, and wherein the second sub-image is rendered as a part of the first sub-image which is rendered as a part of one of the pages of the document.

2.　(previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the native format is one of:

　　(i)　a tagged image file format; and

　　(ii)　a portable document format.

3.　(original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the document indicia is disbound from page data of the rendering job.

4.　(previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein linking one or more pages of the document with one or more of the sub-images comprises linking the one or more pages in a next list.

5.　(previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein linking one or more pages of the document with one or more of the sub-images comprises sub-chaining the one or more sub-images from page images by a sub list.

6.　(previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein linking one or more pages of the document with one or more of the sub-images comprises sub-chaining the one or more sub-images within sub-images.

7.　(previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein defining an ordered subset of the sub-images comprises creating a set of instructions in one of (i) a dynamic manner, and (ii) a static manner.

8.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more sub-images are placed at one or more locations of the one or more pages of the document and at one or more scales defined by information included in the single file, the information being defined independently of the pages of the document.

9.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein all the sub-images in the single file are in the native format.

10.   (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the underlay process includes applying an underlay below at least one of:

    (i)   a page image; and

    (ii)   another sub-image.

11.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the native format is an image format.

12.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein rendering the rendering job occurs within a printing device rendering and printing the document without rasterization.

13.   (previously presented) In a printing environment, a method for adding document indicia when printing an image without the use of a printer driver, the method comprising:

using a multi-subfile extension to represent multiple sub-images of a TIFF image within a single TIFF document file, wherein data of the TIFF image is not converted into printing instructions by an application;

using an extension to group and locate the sub-images on a page;

providing one or more electronic tags of the TIFF document file to perform at least one of:

supporting an overlay of the multiple sub-images on the page;

supporting an underlay of the multiple sub-images on the page;

supporting a composite of the multiple sub-images on the page;

specifying a merge order of the multiple sub-images on the page;

specifying a location for merging the multiple sub-images on the page; and

specifying any scaling of the multiple sub-images;

providing the single TIFF document file to a printer in TIFF format without using a printer driver; and

selectively rendering the TIFF image at the printer, wherein the printer merges the sub-images based on the electronic tags.

14.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the overlay is applied on top of another sub-image that is merged with a page image.

15.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the electronic tags specify both a location for merging the multiple sub-images on the page and scaling of the multiple sub-images.

16.   (original) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the underlay is applied below at least one of:

        (i)   a page image; and

        (ii)   another sub-image.

17.   (original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the underlay is a watermark.

18.   (original) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the merge is performed on a composite and at least one of:

        (i)   a page image; and

        (ii)   another sub-image.

19.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium storing a computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for dynamically adding one or more document indicia to a document when rendering the document without a printer driver, the computer program product comprising computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for:

        receiving a rendering job of a document as a single file at a rendering device, wherein the rendering job is in a native image format that supports at least one of (i)

multiple pages, and (ii) multiple images, and wherein the single file of the rendering job contains:

one or more document indicia stored as separate sub-images in the single file in the native image format;

one or more images representing one or more pages of the document, wherein the one or more images are defined independently of and are not merged with the one or more sub-images in the single file;

one or more tags within the file defining how the one or more pages of the document should be merged with one or more of the sub-images; and

an ordered subset of the sub-images to apply to the document; and

using a rendering device process, as directed by the tags and without a printer driver, to associate and merge the one or more sub-images with one or more of the pages of the document when rendering the document, wherein the process is one of (i) an overlay process, (ii) an underlay process, and (iii) a composite process.

20.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 19, wherein the native format is one of (i) a tagged image file format and (ii) a portable document format.

21.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 19, wherein the process associates and merges one or more of the sub-images into another sub-image to form a composite sub-image and merges the composite sub-image with one or more pages of the document.

22.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 19, wherein the one of the sub-images is merged with each of the images forming the pages of the document.

23.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 22, wherein other sub-images are selectively merged with the images forming the pages of the document.

24.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 19, wherein the native format is a tagged image file format and the sub-images are placed at a location of the pages of the document and at a scale defined by tags included in an image file directory of the single file, the tags therefore being defined independently of the pages of the document defined by the tagged image file format.

25.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 24, wherein the tags define different scales and placements of a single sub-image within multiple images and pages of the rendering job.